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son's thought and work as Mr. Mead conceives him. The quotations from Emerson's writings, of which the book is so interestingly full, are well made, and enable the reader to see the philosopher and poet through his own utterances,—a most excellent way indeed, if it were not so difficult sometimes to understand what it really was that he was trying to say in those wonderful phrases, whose beauty always remains even when the thought is too profound to be easily comprehended. Quotation from Mr. Mead's book would be of little value in giving any proper idea of it, as what he says hangs together from end to end so closely that one does not know where to start or stop. Read the whole book; it will stimulate you and do you good, even if you do not always agree, as you certainly will not, with either Emerson or Mr. Mead.

BERTHA VON SUTTNER DIE "SCHWAERMERIN" FUER GUETE. With portraits and a selection of "thought-pearls." By Leopold Katscher. Dresden: E. Pierson's Verlag. Preis 50 pf.

In this booklet of 130 pages Mr. Katscher, a warm personal friend of hers, gives a brief history of the life and work of the Baroness von Suttner, whose sixtieth birthday was observed by her many friends on the 9th of June. It contains two portraits of the Baroness, one of her when she was thirty years old, the other from a recent photograph. Mr. Katscher has also collected from the Baroness' works, of which she has produced a large number, and put into his booklet a hundred or more of her epigrammatic sayings in which the fine, practical, humanitarian spirit of the author is vividly revealed. Many of these are peace sentiments from her different works. The book would be an admirable one for students of German in our schools and colleges, and we should be glad to see it widely used in this way.

FIRST STEPS IN PUBLIC SPEAKING. By George W. Hoss, LL. D. Topeka, Kansas: Crane & Company.

One who has ever done any public speaking will wish, when he takes up this little book and examines a few pages of it, that he had had the privilege of reading every line of it before he first ventured upon his feet to say something to an audience. It probably contains as much good sense about public speaking—not "orating," for there is none of that in it—as has ever been put into the same number of pages. Dr. Hoss, the head of the Western School of Oratory at Wichita, Kansas, has had long experience as a public speaker and teacher of youth in the art of speech, and he has built up his "short and simple" story, touching the art of speaking in a natural and therefore scientific way. The book is free from that high-flying verbiage which ruins so many works on oratory. The author makes no pretense that his work is other than elementary, but his elements are applicable to all public speaking, not to that of tyros only, and whoever masters the principles which he sets forth will never really need anything else except a good head, a good tongue, a good education, good sense and *practice*. These good things are a good deal, and Dr. Hoss does not propose to make public speakers of those who have them not. One of the finest of the fine arts is that of plain, simple, natural, intelligent, effective speech,

and Dr. Hoss tells in a plain and practical way how to take "the first steps" therein. There is one particular commendation of his work: He teaches public speaking in the interests of the promotion of truth and right and goodness, the abolition of war and all other evils, and the setting up of the Kingdom of God among men.

PIONEERS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN AMERICA. Boston: The American Unitarian Association. 396 pages. \$1.50 net.

The chapters of this book were given as lectures in the First Church in Boston in the spring of this year, in what is known as "The Great and Thursday Lecture" course. The purpose of the book is to set forth some of the great principles through which religious freedom in this country was achieved, and the characters and labors of the great men who advocated and made them triumphant. The authors of the Chapters are Edwin I. Mead, President Faunce of Brown University, Williston Walker, D. D., Benjamin F. Trueblood, Thomas R. Slicer, Professor Wm. W. Fenn of Harvard, Dr. Washington Gladden, John Coleman Adams, D.D., Professor Francis G. Peabody, Rev. James Eells, and Dr. Samuel A. Eliot. The pioneers of religious liberty of whom they respectively treat are William Brewster, Roger Williams, Thomas Hooker, William Penn, Thomas Jefferson, William Ellery Channing, Horace Bushnell, Hosea Ballou, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Theodore Parker and Phillips Brooks. This list of writers and of eminent men whose work is treated in its pages ought to secure for the book a very wide reading.

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